INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/01031

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER Int.Cl⁷ B28B3/26 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) Int.Cl⁷ B28B3/26 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched 1926–1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2003 Jitsuyo Shinan Koho Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2003 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2003 Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category* 1 - 3, 5JP 2000-71225 A (Institute of Technology Precision 4,6 Electrical Discharge Work's), Y 07 March, 2000 (07.03.00), Claims 4, 8; Fig. 5; Par. No. [0030] (Family: none) JP 8-90534 A (Babcock-Hitachi Kabushiki Kaisha), 1,2,6 Х 3,4,6 09 April, 1996 (09.04.96), Y Drawings; Par. No. [0017] (Family: none) 3,4 JP 2000-326318 A (Denso Corp.), Y 28 November, 2000 (28.11.00), Claims 11, 12; Par. Nos. [0035] to [0037] (Family: none) See patent family annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. later document published after the international filing date or Special categories of cited documents: priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to document defining the general state of the art which is not understand the principle or theory underlying the invention considered to be of particular relevance document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive date step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other considered to involve an inventive step when the document is special reason (as specified) combined with one or more other such documents, such document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art document published prior to the international filing date but later document member of the same patent family than the priority date claimed Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 30 April, 2003 (30.04.03) 18 April, 2003 (18.04.03) Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer Japanese Patent Office Telephone No. Facsimile No.